



THE ASSAM GAZETTE

অসাধাৰণ

EXTRAORDINARY

প্ৰাপ্ত কৰ্তৃত্বৰ দ্বাৰা প্ৰকাশিত

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No. 730 Dispur, Wednesday, 12th November, 2025, 21st Kartika, 1947 (S. E.)

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM

ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR

HOME (A) DEPARTMENT

NOTIFICATION

The 11th November, 2025

eCF No. 609403/103.- In exercise of the powers conferred under sub-section (1) of section 18 of the Assam Village Defence Organisation Act, 1966 (Assam Act, XXII of 1966), the Governor of Assam is hereby pleased to make the following rules further to amend the Assam Village Defence Organisation Rules, 1986, hereinafter referred to as the principal Rules, in the manner hereinafter appearing, namely:-

Short title and
commencement

1. (1) This rules may be called as the Assam Village Defence Organization (Amendment) Rules, 2025.
- (2) It shall come into force on the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

Amendment of
rule 2

2. In the principal Rules, for rule 2, the following shall be substituted, namely:-
“Definitions 2. (i) “Act” means the Assam Village Defence Organization Act, 1966;
(ii) “Appellate Authority” means the Deputy Chief Controller or any Officer above the rank of Deputy Chief Controller;
(iii) “Deputy Chief Controller” means the Deputy Inspector General or the Inspector General of Police (Range) for the districts under his range, who shall hold this post as an Ex-officio Officer;
(iv) “Form” means a form appended to these rules;

- (v) “Naik” means the Naik of the Primary Village Defence Party;
- (vi) “prescribed” means prescribed under these rules;
- (vii) “President” means the Chairman or President of the District Advisory Committee, Sub-divisional Advisory Committee or Thana Level Nagarik Committee or President of the Village Defence Party or President of the Primary Committee of the village or Revenue village;
- (viii) “Range” means a range constituted by the State Government in co-terminus with the existing Police Range;
- (ix) “Rules” means the Assam Village Defence Organization Rules, 1986;
- (x) “Secretary” means the Secretary of the District Advisory Committee, Sub-Divisional Advisory Committee or a Thana Advisory Committee of the Assam Village Defence Organization;
- (xi) “Thana Level Nagarik Committee” means the Advisory Committee constituted by the Government as notified in the Official Gazette.”

Amendment of
rule 5

3. In the principal Rules, for rule 5, the following shall be substituted, namely:-

“5. (1) The Village Defence Primary Committee shall be formed by the District Village Defence Officer on the recommendation of the Thana and District Village Defence Officers with one adult member from each family including sufficient numbers of women members of the village or a group of villages. The jurisdiction of such Primary Committee shall be co-terminus with the conventional boundary of the Village or group of villages, as the case may be. The member of the Primary Committee shall select the President by majority opinion and the Secretary of the Committee shall be nominated by the District Village Defence Officer or his representative who shall be the Convenor or Organiser of the Committee and who shall be not below the rank of a Sub-Inspector.

(2) Depending upon the size of the population, one or more Village Defence Parties shall be formed in a revenue Village or a group of villages with a maximum of 25 adult members of the age group between 18 to 40 years. The total number of VDPs in the State shall be limited to the combined number of revenue villages and forest villages, which shall serve as the upper limit. The minimum educational qualification shall be Matriculation for SC/ST candidates and Higher Secondary for others. The Primary Committee shall recommend the Village Defence Parties thus formed for registration and the Thana Village Defence Officer shall nominate Village Defence such parties to the District Village Defence Officer, who may or may not grant registration at his discretion after consideration of

merits and financial implications. Registration shall entitle the party to enjoy the benefit, power and privileges attached to the members of the Village Defence Party, duly nominated by the Thana Village Defence Officers and approved by the District Village Defence Officer. The District Village Defence Officer can however allow non-registered Village Defence Parties to function under special circumstances. The operational jurisdiction of a Village Defence Party shall be confined within the limits of conventional boundary of a Village or group of villages out of which the Village Defence Party is formed:

Provided that the Thana Village Defence Officers may, under special circumstances extend the operational jurisdiction of the Village Defence Party:

Provided further that no person having been charged or convicted in any criminal cases or offences involving moral turpitude shall be entitled to become a member of any Village Defence Party or Committee formed under these rules. If such instances are later discovered, he or she shall immediately be replaced with other suitable member.”

Amendment of
rule 6

4. In the principal Rules, in rule 6,

(i) for sub-rule (2), the following shall be substituted, namely:-

“(2) To carry out patrol and watch in the area allotted for the party to prevent theft, burglaries, dacoities, child marriage, witch-hunting, poaching, human trafficking, cultivation of cannabis or opium, drugs peddling, gambling and other anti-national or anti-social activities by any person or organizations for safeguarding the public lives and all vital public installations and public assets, including Government buildings and related infrastructure viz. railway tracks, canals, embankments, dykes and also to inspect and monitor the embankments of the Water Resources Department during the flood period and to inform the concerned Water Resources Department officials about any probable damages so that timely precautionary measures can be taken to avert any untoward situation.”

(ii) after sub-rule (9), the following new sub-rules (10) and (11) shall be inserted, namely:-

“(10) The District Village Defence Officer shall arrange training programme for VDPs to inculcate discipline and sense of patriotism in the nearest Battalion Headquarters. Further training on social work shall also be arranged in collaboration with educational and other such institutions.

(11) To synergize the two streams of security and development, the services of the VDPs or Volunteers shall be utilized by the District Commissioner for developmental and social purposes. The District Administration can also utilize the VDPs or Volunteers for rescue, relief and rehabilitation of affected persons during natural calamities, man-made calamities, war or war-like situation and other diversified works.”

Amendment of
rule 10

5. In the principal Rules, in rule 10, in sub-rule (a), after clause (vi), the following new clauses shall be inserted, namely:-

- “(vii) To maintain a list containing the up-to-date records viz. names of the family members with age, gender classifications (Male or Female), occupation, total number of family members of each and every household within the jurisdiction of the Primary Committee.
- (viii) To send a list of individuals or persons containing their names, details and destination addresses who have come from outside and staying in the village consecutively for 3 (three) months and who have left the village for work or other purposes, thereof to the concerned Police Station and such records shall be maintained by the District Village Defence Officer through the Circle Organiser, Village Defence Organisation.”

Amendment of
rule 11

6. In the principal Rules, in rule 11,

- (i) for sub-rule (b), the following shall be substituted, namely:-

“(b) The eligibility criteria for the post of Circle Organiser, Village Defence Organisation shall be such that he must be a citizen of India and domicile of Assam. The age limit and age relaxation shall be as per existing norms of the Government issued from time to time. The minimum educational qualification for the post of Circle Organiser, Village Defence Organisation shall be Higher Secondary passed from a recognized Board or Council, and as decided by the State Government from time to time. The candidate must be found fit on medical examination and Police verification.”

- (ii) after sub-rule (b), the following new sub-rule (c) shall be inserted, namely:-

“(c) There shall be a Circle Organiser for every Police Station of the district:

Provided that in case where the post of Circle Organiser is vacant, the Department may depute a Sub-Inspector of the concerned Police Station to hold the charge temporarily.”

Amendment of
rule 16

7. In the principal Rules, for rule 16, the following shall be substituted, namely:-

“16. The Thana Level Nagarik Committees shall work as the Advisory Committee for Village Defence Party (VDP) in place of Thana Advisory Committee. One member of the Thana Level Nagarik Committee shall preferably be selected from the Village Defence Parties (VDPs). The Thana-level Nagarik Committee shall ensure that wherever the existing VDP volunteers are inactive or there are complaints against them, such VDP volunteers shall be excluded during the formation of new Village Defence Parties.”

Amendment of
rule 18

9. In the principal Rules, in rule 18, for the heading, the following shall be substituted, namely:-

“The formation, duties and functions of the District Advisory Committee:-”

Amendment of rule 19 10. In the principal Rules, for rule 19, the following shall be substituted, namely:—

“19. (1) The tenure of the Advisory Committees as provided in rules 16, 17 and 18 except the Thana Level Nagarik Committee (TLNC) shall be for a period of 5 years from the date of formation of each Committee. On expiry of the term, each Committee shall be re-constituted. The old Committee however shall continue to function till a new Committee is formed.

(2) The service tenure of each member shall be for a maximum of period 5(five) years which may be extended for a further period of 5(five) years provided eligibility criteria are met in the organization to maintain youthful nature of the organization.”

Amendment of rule 21 11. In the principal Rules, for rule 21, the following shall be substituted, namely:—

“Appointment and tenure of office of the honorary Chief Adviser or Adviser or Deputy Adviser

21. (1) There shall be one Honorary Chief Adviser and one Honorary Adviser for the State and one or more Honorary Deputy Adviser(s) in a district who shall be appointed by the State Government. The age of the Honorary Chief Adviser and Honorary Deputy Adviser shall be between 25 and 45 years (upper age limit). The tenure of Honorary Chief Adviser or Adviser or Deputy Adviser of Village Defence Organisation shall normally be for a period of 5 (five) years. The parameters for appointment of Honorary Chief Adviser or Honorary Adviser or Honorary Deputy Adviser shall be as per Government Circular or Notification. The State Government shall however have the discretion to terminate the Honorary Chief Adviser or Adviser or Deputy Adviser at any time without notice and without assigning any reason thereof.

(2) The Honorary Chief Adviser or Adviser or Deputy Adviser shall endeavor to enlist active co-operation of the mass people towards the fulfillment of the objects of the Village Defence Organisation by having mass contacts through mass meetings, rally anniversaries, conventions etc.”

Amendment of rule 23 12. In the principal Rules, for rule 23, the following shall be substituted, namely:-

“Dissolution or Suspension of Registration of Registered Village Defence Parties

23. The District Village Defence Officer shall have all the rights to dissolve or suspend a Village Defence Party on the recommendation of the Thana Village Defence Officer in consultation with the concerned Honorary Deputy Adviser, if he deems fit or necessary without assigning any reason thereof. The Village Defence Party whose registration is cancelled shall not be entitled to any out of pocket allowances and supply of equipment and arms from the date of such cancellation. All members and office bearers of the party whose registration is cancelled shall cease to be vested with any powers, functions and privileges as member of Village Defence Organisation.”

Amendment of
rule 24

13. In the principal Rules, in rule 24,

(i) for sub-rule (a), the following shall be substituted, namely:-

“(a) The Chief Controller shall be responsible for control, supervision and administration of the entire Village Defence Organisation. He may call for such periodical reports from the District Village Defence Officers as he considers necessary. He may inspect at any time, the registers and accounts maintained by VDPs and Primary Committees. He may organize regular training and awareness programmes for the members of the Village Defence Parties, Circle Organisers, Village Defence Organisation and other associated persons with Village Defence Parties on law and order, disaster management, social issues, crime, intelligence gathering or source handling, training in drills and arms, etc., through the District Village Defence Officers.

The Appointing Authority shall be the Disciplinary Authority in matters of disciplinary proceedings concerning a Circle Organiser, Village Defence Organisation. The Deputy Chief Controller of the Range concerned shall be the Appellate Authority. In case of taking any major disciplinary action, the Appointing Authority or the Appellate Authority shall obtain approval of the Chief Controller or any Officer above the rank of Chief Controller.

(ii) after sub-rule (b), the following new sub-rule (c) shall be inserted, namely:-

“(c) The Chief Controller shall design a chapter in the Assam Police official website including the organizational charts, workings and achievements of the VDPs with photographic evidences of such achievements during flood etc. in a regular manner so that the members get a social recognition. A social media page shall be maintained to highlight the good works done by the VDPs.”

Amendment of
rule 26

14. In principal Rules, for rule 26, the following shall be substituted, namely:—

“26. The Village Defence Parties shall get financial aid from the Government as out of pocket money at the rate fixed by the Government from time to time to meet such miscellaneous expenses as may be required. Payment of out of pocket money shall be contingent up on actual functioning of the parties and no out of pocket money shall be admissible for periods not actually worked.

Any other allowances to be paid to the Secretaries of VDP Committees enabling them to conduct field works in an efficient manner shall be as fixed by the Government from time to time.”

Amendment of
rule 27

15. In principal Rules, in rule 27,

(i) for sub-rule (a), the following shall be substituted, namely:-

“(a) Each Village Defence Party shall be provided the following articles to enable the party to carry out patrolling and watch

effectively, namely:—

- (1) Raincoat with VDP logo -10 Nos.;
- (2) LED Chargeable Torch Light -04 Nos.;
- (3) Full or Half sleeved Jacket with VDP logo -10 Nos.;
- (4) VDP Brass Badges -25 Nos.;
- (5) Naik Brass Badges-01 No.;
- (6) Poly carbonated Stick or Lathi (Cane or Bamboo)-10 Nos.;
- (7) Whistle with cord-06 Nos.;
- (8) Any other electronic or technical gadgets etc., if so required.

The supplied equipment shall be distributed among the VDPs by the District Village Defence Officer through the concerned Thana Village Defence Officer and Circle Organiser, Village Defence Organisation by maintaining proper records of the supplied articles.”

AJAY TEWARI,

Additional Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam,
Home & Political Department.